



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: October 6, 2009

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Agreement For Surface Water And Groundwater Monitoring

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a joint funding agreement with United States Geological Survey (USGS) for water resources investigations related to surface water and groundwater measurements for the period of November 1, 2009, through October 31, 2010, with a City cost share not to exceed \$109,100.

DISCUSSION:

The City and USGS have worked cooperatively on water resources monitoring and investigations for over 25 years, including an annual program of measuring surface water flows and monitoring groundwater levels and water quality. As in the past, the proposed Fiscal Year 2010 program has two elements:

- **Surface Water Gauging Stations:** USGS will continue to operate, maintain, and publish stream flow records for four stations on the Santa Ynez River and one on Mission Creek. This information is used to implement the Upper Santa Ynez River Operations Agreement and for tracking recharge releases into Mission Creek.
- **Groundwater Monitoring:** City staff will take monthly water level measurements at 73 monitoring locations. USGS will maintain the database of water level data and continue to collect and maintain groundwater quality data. This information is used in modeling the City's groundwater supplies and potential impact from seawater intrusion.

The data that is collected and maintained is an important part of managing the City's water supply.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The overall program cost is \$171,600, to be shared by the City (\$109,100) and USGS (\$62,500). A potential credit from this year's program may reduce the City's share slightly. The City also contributes 200 labor hours per year for measuring groundwater levels. Funds for this program are included in the 2010 Water Fund Operating Budget.

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SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office